Message Text

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3.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EFIS, PLOS

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, MAY 3, 1977: EXTERNAL FISHERY

DISCUSSIONS

1 FAEROE ISLANDS:

DURING THE MAY 3 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, THE UK RAISED ITS STRONG INTEREST IN OBTAINING GREATER CONCESSIONS IN THE CURRENT ROUND OF DISHERY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND THE FAEROE ISLANDS. UK MINISTER OF STATE FRANK JUDD TOLD REPORTERS HE HAD STRESSED TO THE COUNCIL THAT CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS UNFAIRLY FAVOR THE FAEROESE, WHO ARE ALLOWED ACCESS TO EC WATERS ON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SAME BASIS AS IN 1976, WHILE THE EC IS DENIED AN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF LICENSES TO FISH UP TO ITS QUOTA IN FAEROSE WATERS (HE INDICATED THAT 25 LICENSES WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THAT PURPOSE, AS OPPOSED TO THE 15 NOW GRANTED). NOTING THE PRESSURE BUILDING UP AMONG SCOTTISH FISHERMEN, JUDD SAID HE HAD WARNED THE COUNCIL THAT UNLESS "SOMETHING MEANINGFUL IS DONE WITHIN DAYS,

ACTION WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN." HE DELCINED TO ELABORATE ON WHAT SUCH "ACTION" MIGHT ENTAIL OR WHETHER IT WOULD BE TAKEN BY THE UK UNILATERALLY. JUDD TOLD REPORTERS THAT "THERE ARE TWO OR THREE DAYS" IN WHICH THE FAEROESE CAN MAKE POSITIVE SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW TO "BRIDGE THE GAP" AND THAT THE UK WAS ANXIOUS TO HEAR SUCH SUGGESTIONS. HE SAID THAT THIS "GRACE PERIOD" WAS POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE UK HAD RECEIVED SOME SIGNALS THAT THE FAEROESE WERE THEMSELVES ANXIOUS TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION.

2. ICELAND:

TURNING TO THE ICELAND NEGOTATIONS, JUDD EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE GOI WUULD AGREE SOON TO A SPECIFIC DATE FORAVISIT BY EC NEGOTIATORS.

3. SOVIET UNION:

ACCORDING TO COUNCIL SOURCES, FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER MADE A SPECIAL PITCH THAT THE EC SHOULD NOT AGREE TO ANY FISHING TREATY WITH THE USSR IN THE ABSENCE OF FORMAL SOVIET RECOGNITION OF THE COMMUNITY AND OF SOVIET AGREEMENT TO INCLUSION OF A "BERLIN CLAUSE." HINTON

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TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, FO, UK, EEC, (JUDD, FRANK)

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